

Uruguay – Montevideo

Global Youth Tobacco Survey (GYTS)

FACT SHEET



The Uruguay - Montevideo GYTS includes data on prevalence of cigarette and other tobacco use as well as information on five determinants of tobacco use: access/availability and price, environmental tobacco smoke exposure (ETS), cessation, media and advertising, and school curriculum. These determinants are components Uruguay could include in a comprehensive tobacco control program.

The Uruguay - Montevideo GYTS was a school-based survey of students in grades 1-3, conducted in 2001. A two-

stage cluster sample design was used to produce representative data for all of Montevideo. At the first stage, schools were selected with probability proportional to enrollment size. At the second stage, classes were randomly selected and all students in selected classes were eligible to participate. The school response rate was 96.0%, the student response rate was 85.6%, and the overall response rate was 82.1%. A total of 1849 students participated in the Uruguay- Montevideo GYTS.

Prevalence

52.4% of students had ever smoked cigarettes (Male = 52.2%, Female = 52.3%)
 28.1% currently use any tobacco product (Male = 26.2%, Female = 28.8%)
 24.1% currently smoke cigarettes (Male = 20.5%, Female = 26.5%)
 10.4% currently use other tobacco products (Male = 13.0%, Female = 7.4%)
 23.0% of never smokers are likely to initiate smoking next year

Knowledge and Attitudes

12.9% think boys and 11.7% think girls who smoke have more friends
 13.6% think boys and 10.1% think girls who smoke look more attractive

Access and Availability - Current Smokers

18.5% usually smoke at home
 67.7% buy cigarettes in a store
 77.7% who bought cigarettes in a store were NOT refused purchase because of their age

Environmental Tobacco Smoke

64.6% live in homes where others smoke
 80.0% are around others who smoke in places outside their home
 74.2% think smoking should be banned from public places
 65.8% think smoke from others is harmful to them
 57.0% have one or more parents who smoke
 23.0% have most or all friends who smoke

Cessation - Current Smokers

58.7% want to stop smoking
 63.6% tried to stop smoking during the past year
 68.5% have ever received help to stop smoking

Media and Advertising

84.4% saw anti-smoking media messages, in the past 30 days
 94.4% saw pro-cigarette ads on billboards, in the past 30 days
 87.3% saw pro-cigarette ads in newspapers or magazines, in the past 30 days
 16.9% have an object with a cigarette brand logo
 21.8% were offered free cigarettes by a tobacco company representative

School

36.9% had been taught in class, during the past year, about the dangers of smoking
 26.5% had discussed in class, during the past year, reasons why people their age smoke
 29.3% had been taught in class, during the past year, the effects of tobacco use

Highlights

- 28% of students currently use any form of tobacco; 24% currently smoke cigarettes; 10% currently use some other form of tobacco.
- ETS exposure is very high – almost 2 in 3 students live in homes where others smoke; 8 in 10 are exposed to smoke in public places; almost 6 in 10 have parents who smoke.
- Two-thirds of students think smoke from others is harmful to them.
- Over 7 in 10 students think smoking in public places should be banned.
- Almost 6 in 10 smokers want to stop.
- 8 in 10 students saw anti-smoking media messages in the past 30 days; 9 in 10 students saw pro-cigarette ads in the past 30 days.